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Business and Economic Consultants

Kevin J. Cooper

Feb. 8, 1994

To: Elgin City Council
From: Kevin Cooper, 2010 Coordinator
RE: Progress Report for January, 1995

The 2010 Committee met twice in January and held a number of sub-committee meetings. Several initiatives of the 2010 Committee are taking shape and making great strides toward implementation.

The Social Service Network received a \$2,000 grant approval from the Union County Commission on Children and Families to set up the Social Service Network. This effort will be administered through the Elgin Parks and Recreation District. The program also received a commitment from Grande Ronde Hospital's Clinic Services Department to provide additional funding to implement the program.

The Riverfest Committee began its planning for the 1995 Riverfest. Two grant applications have been submitted for funding. The first grant for \$850 has been requested from the Union County Commission on Children and Families. It will pay for a puppeteer and other costs of activities. A second grant for \$500 has been requested from the Grande Ronde Model Watershed Program. These funds will pay for Riverfest advertising and help us recruit more people for the two Resource Round Table Meetings. Both applications should be decided on within the next few weeks.

2010 created a new "business development" committee in January which is working to implement two strategies in the job creation section of the strategic plan. Their first activity will be to implement the business visitation program.

This year's Elgin Chamber Banquet will feature Elgin's Strategic Plan as its program. Members of the 2010 Committee will present individual components of the plan and discuss ongoing activities. This will help the community be more aware of what the 2010 Committee has planned for the community. It should also help in recruiting new volunteers.

The six 2010 members who began attending the Rural Futures Forum in September graduated in January. These people were Ron Brand, Olga Grant, Maureen Smolkowski, Ray McVey, LaVeta Botz, and Kevin Cooper. They now join Joe Garlitz and Christine McLaughlin as Elgin's Rural Futures Forum graduates.

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Industrial Park Project Progress Report

The industrial park project is nearing its mid-period time and has fallen behind in schedule. This delay is due to delays in scheduling meetings with people from Boise Cascade Corporation who own the land where the industrial park is planned.

There are two parts to the project. My activities are in making an economic assessment on the project to insure that the resulting actions of the city and community will make the project successful once it is implimented. The second part of the project is engineering and design work to be done by Anderson Perry Associates. I have been able to complete my research activities and prepare some preliminary recommendations and will be preparing a draft report in the next few weeks. However, the engineering work will be delayed until at least the end of this month.

The reason for the delay is that Boise Cascade Corporation people in the Northeast Oregon Regional Office have been trying to determine how they should and could take part in the project. I have discussed the project with several people in La Grande and have come to the conclusion they are being very careful and do not want to rush to any conclusions.

Their position on the property is that they bought the property with the intent of holding it for long term development needs. That use is still their priority for the property and as such, they do not intend to make any commitment or even hint that they might consider another use at this time. They are, however, interested in having some input into the engineering that is planned. At this time, they are still considering how and to what extent they want to participate with the city, the 2010 Committee, or the engineer.

I have tried to think of some way this process might be moved forward faster. The fact of this situation is that Boise Cascade Corporation is not in a hurry to get this matter on their agenda and we have very little we can offer them as an incentive to become involved on our time schedule. They have indicated they will tell us what they would like to see but have yet to provide a time frame for that discussion. I would recommend no action at this time by the city. I may have a recommendation next month on this matter for you to consider.